

## Message Text

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14

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

OMB-01 EB-11 SIL-01 LAB-06 COME-00 RSR-01 /099 W

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R 110706Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1237

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CANBERRA 3825

E.O. 11652/ N/A

TAGS: PINT, AS

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER WHITLAM'S SPEECH TO ALP CONFERENCE

JULY 10

REF: CANBERRA 3769

1. SPEECH BY PRIME MINISTER WHITLAM TO ALP CONFERENCE  
JULY 10 WAS NOT RPT NOT ON DEFENSE AND FOREIGN POLICY  
MATTERS, AS REPORTED IN REFTEL, BUT ON ESSENTIALLY  
PARTY AND DOMESTIC QUESTIONS. DEFENSE AND FOREIGN POLICY  
DEBATE DUE JULY 12 AFTER RECESS JULY 11 FOR FUNERAL OF  
FORMER ALP LEADER CALDWELL.

2. WHITLAM SPEECH WAS FEATURED BY STANDARD EXPRESSIONS OF  
APPRECIATION TO PARTY FAITHFUL FOR DEVOTED WORK THAT MADE  
POSSIBLE ALP VICTORY IN ELECTIONS OF DECEMBER, 1972, AND  
WARNING THAT PARTY FACTIONALISM AND ILL-CONSIDERED ACTION  
BY TRADE UNIONS COULD BRING IN LIBERAL-COUNTRY GOVERNMENT  
ONCE AGAIN.

3. HOWEVER, CENTRAL PORTION OF SPEECH DOMINATED BY EX-  
TENDED PHILLIPIC AGAINST LIBERAL-COUNTRY GOVERNMENT, WHICH  
HE CONDEMNED AS MARKED BY QTE OPPORTUNISM, SELFISHNESS,  
HATRED, GREED AND FEAR. END QTE HE DISMISSED PREVIOUS  
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GOVERNMENT AS A CONTINUING JOKE, THEN HELD IT

RESPONSIBLE FOR DEATH OF 500 AUSTRALIANS IN VIET-NAM  
AND FOR HAVING QTE RAPED THE ABORIGINAL POPULATION OF  
THEIR LAST REMAINING VESTIGES OF DIGNITY. END QTE  
HE CLOSED BY LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT ELECTIONS, WHICH  
HE SAID CANNOT BE LATER THAN THE END OF 1975 (THOUGH HE  
DECLINED TO PREDICT DATE), AND ADDED HE WANTED TO FACE  
ELECTIONS WITH PROGRAM QTE TO CREATE IN OUR TIME A MORE  
EQUAL, A MORE TOLERANT, A MORE INDEPENDENT AUSTRALIAN  
SOCIETY. END QTE

4. COMMENT: WHILE BULK OF SPEECH WAS AS MIGHT BE EX-  
PECTED FROM SPEECH TO PARTISAN POLITICAL CONVENTION,  
VENEMOUS REFERENCES TO LIBERAL-COUNTRY-DLP PARTIES LAST  
DECEMBER. RECENT POLLS HAVE SUGGESTED ALP WOULD LOSE  
ELECTIONS IF HELD NOW. WHITLAM, HOWEVER, HAS TOLD  
JOURNALISTS THAT, EVEN IF HE WERE TRAILING BY 6 PERCENT AT  
BEGINNING OF ELECTION CAMPAIGN, HE WOULD BE ABLE TO DE-  
FEAT LIBERAL-COUNTRY COALITION LED BY BILLY SNEDDEN,  
WHITLAM IS NOTHING IF NOT CONFIDENT.  
GREEN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 JUL 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** smithrj  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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